

DEPARTMENT OF BOATING AND WATERWAYS

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To: Boating and Waterways Commission Members

From: Department of Boating and Waterways, Legislative Unit

Subject: LEGISLATIVE REPORT, August 22, 2012

This report was prepared on August 13, 2012.

ASSEMBLY BILLS**AB 737 (Buchanan) Boating and Waterways: Harbors and Watercraft Commission.**

This bill would create a Harbors and Watercraft Commission in the Department of Parks and Recreation within the Division of Boating and Waterways. This bill would set forth the membership, functions, and duties of the Commission. This bill would also require that members of the existing Parks and Recreation Commission be selected based on their interest in boating and waterways matters in addition to other required interests stated in current law.

Sponsor: Author

Status: On the Governor's Desk 08/09/2012

Department Position: Neutral

AB 1540 (Buchanan) Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta: invasive weeds: South American Spongeplant. This bill would amend existing law that designates the DBW as the lead agency for cooperating with federal and other public agencies on control of the nonnative, invasive aquatic weeds *Egeria densa* and water hyacinth in the Delta, its tributaries, and the Suisun Marsh. This bill would add South American Spongeplant (*Limnobium laevigatum*) to the list of plants authorized for control under this statute.

Sponsor: Author

Status: On the Governor's Desk 08/09/2012

Department Position: Neutral

AB 2443 (Williams) Vessels: registration fee: mussels. As amended 7/6/12, this bill would enact an increase not to exceed ten dollars annually in boat registration fees and would require revenues to be deposited into the Harbors and Watercraft Revolving Fund. The bill would authorize the Department of Motor Vehicles to deduct, prior to depositing revenues into the Fund, its administrative costs for collecting the fee and would require it to provide documentation of such costs to the Department of Boating and Waterways.

This bill would make available specified percentages of revenues to the Department of Boating and Waterways and the Department of Fish and Game for grant administration, and prevention activities, respectively. This bill would create a new statewide local assistance program that would pay for dreissenid mussel prevention programs at reservoirs that allow boating and fishing recreation. This bill would set aside a specified amount of revenues for grants to local agencies.

Sponsor: Counties of Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, and Monterey

Status: In Senate Appropriations Committee 08/06/2012

Department Position: No approved position

SENATE BILLS

SB 1251 (Evans) Ocean Protection Council: Aquatic Invasive Species Working Group. This bill would have required the Ocean Protection Council (OPC) and the Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) to enter into a memorandum of agreement to jointly establish an Aquatic Invasive Species Working Group. This bill would have required that the chair and specified members be appointed by the Secretary of Natural Resources. The working group would have been required to develop and submit to the Legislature by 1/1/14 a report with recommendations for future legislation to manage aquatic invasive species in the state.

Sponsor: Author

Status: Held in Senate Appropriations Committee 05/24/2012

Department Position: No approved position

FEDERAL BILLS

Nothing to report